



JFW

AF/631#

ARNOLD & PORTER LLP

David R. Marsh, Ph.D.
David_Marsh@aporter.com

202.942.5068
202.942.5999 Fax

555 Twelfth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20004-1206

May 4, 2004

Mail Stop Appeal Brief – Patents
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Art Unit 1631
Examiner: M.K. Zeman
Conf. No.: 3580

Re: U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/976,054 filed October 15, 2001
Appellants: Nordine CHEIKH *et al.*
Title: Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other Molecules
Associated with the Cytokinin Pathway
Atty. Docket: 16517.256

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) are the following documents:

1. Appellants' Amended Brief, with attached Appendix A (in triplicate);
2. Petition for Extension of Time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136; and
3. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier.

Authorization is given to charge the statutory fee of \$110.00 for a one-month extension of time to counsel's Deposit Account No. 50-2387, referencing docket number 16517.256. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

In the event that extensions of time beyond those petitioned for herewith are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned. Appellants do not believe that any fees, other than the fee for a one-month extension of time, are due in conjunction with this filing. However, if any fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 are required in the present application, including any fees for further extensions of time, then the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Arnold & Porter LLP Deposit Account No. 50-2387, referencing docket number 16517.256. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Sincerely,

David R. Marsh (Reg. No. 41,408)
Holly Logue Prutz (Reg. No. 47,755)

Enclosures